

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of the claims in this application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An instantaneous mechanism for controlling the date indicator (24) of a timepiece movement, ~~characterized in that it comprises comprising:~~
 - a 24-hour wheel (10) driven by the movement at the rate of one revolution per day and pierced with a first cutout (12b),
 - a date driving wheel (16) mounted to rotate freely on the 24-hour wheel (10), coaxial therewith, said wheel having a pin (18) which fits into said first cutout and a fixed tooth (20) which collaborates with said indicator (24) to cause it to move on step by step each day at around midnight, and
 - a spring balance (26, 32) ~~in direct contact~~ collaborating with the pin (18),these components being shaped, sized and arranged in such a way as to perform the following cycle of operations:
 - a few hours before midnight, the pin (18) begins to act on the balance (26), then in its rest position, thereby arming its spring (32),
 - at around midnight, the balance (26) escapes from the pin (18) and returns abruptly to its rest position, throwing forward the pin (18) and the driving wheel (16) whose tooth (20) strikes the date indicator (24) to cause it to move on by one step, and
 - a few hours after midnight, the pin (18) is once again caught by the first cutout (12b) in the 24-hour wheel

(19) and pushed until, a few hours before midnight, it comes back into contact with the balance (26);
wherein said first cutout is the continuation, in the shape of an arc of a circle concentric with the 24-hour wheel, of a second cutout releasing a spring finger, the first cutout opening onto the end of the spring finger.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 3 1, characterized in that wherein said spring finger (14) is in the shape of a hairpin.

5. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 3 1, characterized in that wherein the angular separation between the end (12e) of the first cutout (12b) ~~of~~ and the end (14a) of the spring finger is of the order of 90°.

6. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the angular separation between the pin (18) and the tooth (20) of the driving wheel (16) is of the order of 45°.

7. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the spring balance comprises a lever (26) mounted to pivot on an arbor (28) and having an elbow (30) against the upstream flank (30a) of which the pin (18) presses and slides in such a way as to cause said lever to pivot and the downstream flank (30b) of which is used, by contrast, to propel said pin forward.

8. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that wherein the lever (26) is extended, beyond its arbor (28), by a spring (32), the end of which rests against a peg (34).

9. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the elbow (30) of the lever makes an angle of about 135°.

10-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the angular separation between the pin (18) and the tooth (20) of the driving wheel (16) is of the order of 45°.

14. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the angular separation between the pin (18) and the tooth (20) of the driving wheel (16) is of the order of 45°.

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring balance comprises a lever (26) mounted to pivot on an arbor (28) and having an elbow (30) against the upstream flank (30a) of which the pin (18) presses and slides in such a way as to cause said lever to pivot and the downstream flank (30b) of which is used, by contrast, to propel said pin forward.

18. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring balance comprises a lever (26) mounted to pivot on an arbor (28) and having an elbow (30) against the upstream flank (30a) of which the pin (18) presses and slides in such a way as to cause said lever to pivot and the downstream flank (30b) of which is used, by contrast, to propel said pin forward.

19. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring balance comprises a lever (26) mounted to pivot on an

arbor (28) and having an elbow (30) against the upstream flank (30a) of which the pin (18) presses and slides in such a way as to cause said lever to pivot and the downstream flank (30b) of which is used, by contrast, to propel said pin forward.

20. (Currently Amended) The mechanism as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that wherein the elbow (30) of the lever makes an angle of about 135°.